



**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8A**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope on the date indicated, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop: Patent Application, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

February 17, 2004

Date

Amie Lewis-Wallace

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

§

Haberland et al.

§

Serial No.: 10/763,762

§

Art Unit:

Filed: 1/23/2004

§

Examiner:

For: **TROCAR HAVING PLANAR FIXED  
SEPTUM SEAL AND RELATED  
METHODS**

§

§

Docket No. 032528.04

**TRANSMITTAL SHEET**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing are the following documents:

- Information Disclosure Statement with a copy of Cited References; and
- Postcard, which we would appreciate your date stamping and returning to us upon receipt.

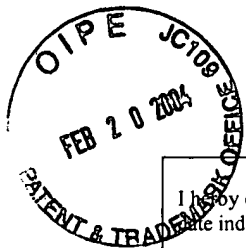
I hereby authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge any additional fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Bracewell & Patterson, L.L.P.'s Deposit Account No. 50-0259 (Atty Docket 032528.04).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 17, 2004

BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P.  
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Jeffrey S. Whittle, Reg. No. 36,382

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 8(A)**

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February 17, 2004

Date

Amy Lewis Wallace

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Haberland

Serial No.: 10/763,762

Filed: 1/23/2004

For: **TROCAR HAVING PLANAR FIXED  
SEPTUM SEAL AND RELATED  
METHODS**

Confirmation No.:

Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

Attorney Docket No. 032528.04

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Attached is Form PTO-1449A listing several references for consideration in the examination of the above-identified application. A copy of each reference is also enclosed. It is requested that these references be considered by the Examiner and officially made of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the M.P.E.P.

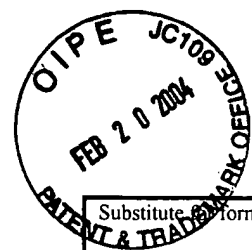
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before issuance of the first Office Action and therefore no fee is required. In the event a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Bracewell & Patterson, L.L.P.'s Deposit Account No. 50-0259 (Attorney Docket No. 032528.04).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 17, 2004

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		<b>Application Number</b>	70/763,762
		<b>Filing Date</b>	1/23/2004
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Haberland, et al.
		<b>Art Unit</b>	
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	
<b>Sheet</b>	1 of 1	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	032528.04

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exr Initials*	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
	Number- Kind Code (if known)			
	US-6,551,282	04-22-2003	Exline et al.	
	US-6,482,181	11-19-2002	Racenet et al.	
	US-6,432,085	08-13-2002	Stellon et al.	
	US-5,984,919	11-16-1999	Hilal et al.	
	US-5,803,919	09-08-1998	Hart et al.	
	US-5,782,812	07-21-1998	Hart et al.	
	US-5,709,664	01-20-1998	Vandenbroek et al.	
	US-5,651,771	07-29-1997	Tangherlini et al.	
	US-5,584,850	12-17-1996	Hart et al.	
	US-5,496,280	03-05-1996	Vandenbroek et al.	
	US-5,476,475	12-19-1995	Gadberry	
	US-5,443,452	08-22-1995	Hart et al.	
	US-5,385,553	01-31-1995	Hart et al.	
	US-5,344,420	09-06-1994	Hilal et al.	
	US-5,226,891	07-13-1993	Bushatz et al.	
	US-5,141,498	08-25-1992	Christian	

### NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Exr Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
	Applied Universal Seal Technology; January 1999	Y
	Applied Universal Seal Technology; January 1999	Y
	Genicon: Trocar and Cannula Systems; January 1999	Y
	Genicon: Modular Laparoscopic Instruments; January 1999	Y

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standards ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.